



2019 Consultation on the future of the VNGOC

Summary of Results, December 2019

Overview

- Total of **64 responses** received
- **86%** are VNGOC members
- **48%** are both VNGOC and NYNGOC members
- **6%** are NYNGOC members only
- **94%** receive the emails and communications from VNGOC
- **95%** of them find these communications useful

Do you feel engaged in the work of the VNGOC?

87% said “yes”
13% said “no”

Selected suggestions:

- More newsletters / email alerts
- More balance
- More regional presence or meetings
- Digitally-enabled discussions
- Content in other languages

VNGOC Strengths

- Promoting / coordinating participation and engagement of NGOs
- Regular communications and dissemination of information
- Bringing actors together and networking
- Representing balanced views and a collective voice
- Institutional credibility with the UN, member states and others
- Strong presence in Vienna
- Approachable, receptive and active Board and staff
- Inclusive speaker selection processes
- Collaboration with NYNGOC

Things To Do Better...

- Greater geographical inclusiveness and regional actions and opportunities
- Strive for balance in terms of regional, thematic and political perspectives
- More opportunities for NGOs to meet, share experiences and discuss issues
- Engaging all members, including affected populations
- More communications and summaries of UN meetings – with translations
- Improve remote participation opportunities in UN fora and VNGOC meetings
- Building consensus or developing joint positions
- Improve coordination with NYNGOC
- Fundraising

Option 1: Status Quo: “Is the current situation [two Committees] satisfactory?”

**52% said “yes”
(3% unsure / no answer)
45% said “no”**

Selected suggestions:

- Formalize relationship (MoU) to define roles etc.
- Better collaboration and communication
- Better engagement in Geneva and elsewhere
- Regional focal points or representation

Option 2: Greater collaboration with NYNGOC and other relevant NGO Committees



**75% said “yes”
(15% unsure / no answer)
10% said “no”**

Selected suggestions:

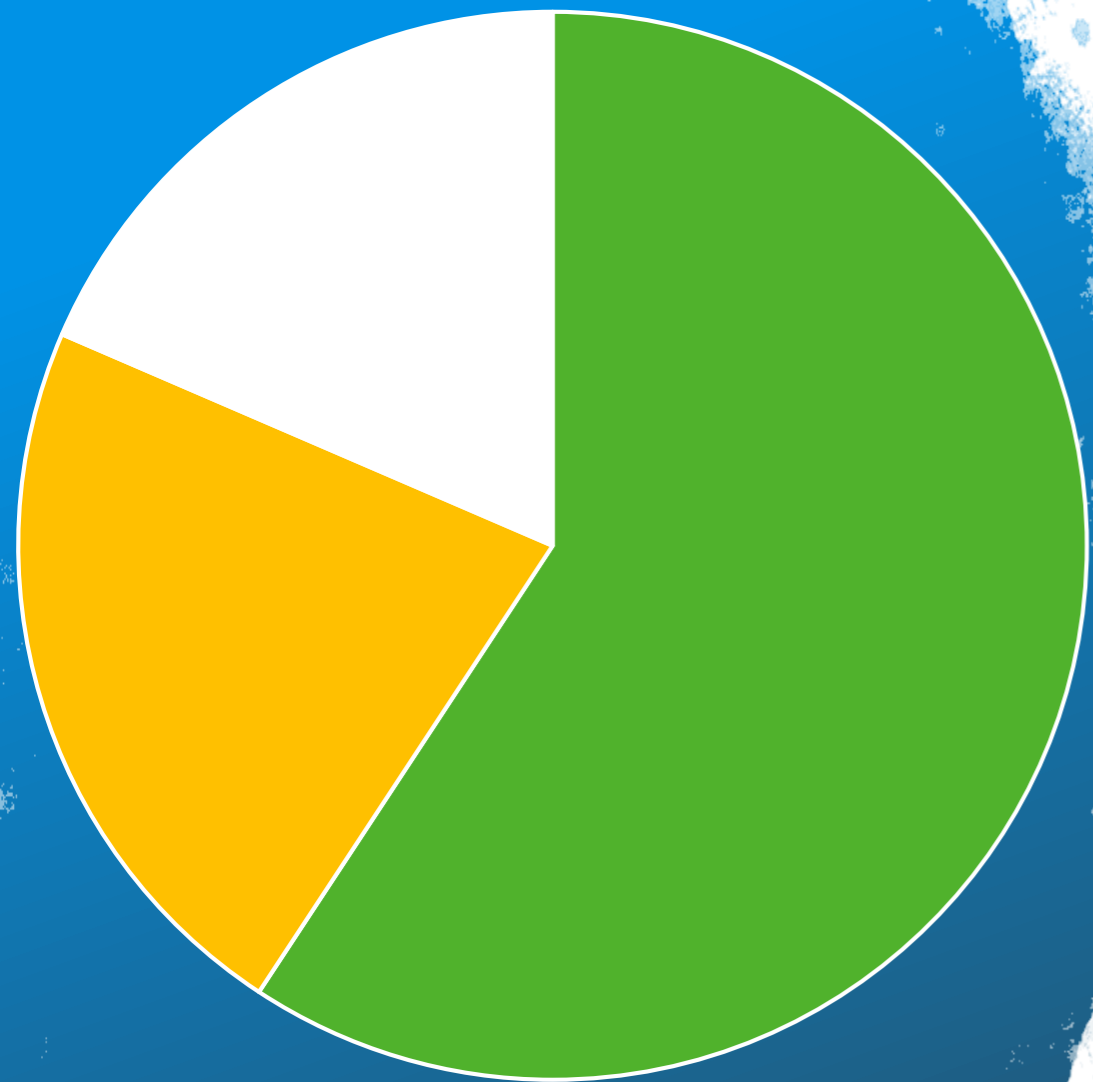
- Formalize relationship (MoU)
- VNGOC should be main coordinating body
- Better exchange of information
- Joint fundraising
- Joint speaker selections
- Support several, independent regional committees

Option 3: A unified, Global NGO Committee on Drugs?

**58% supported this option
(24% unsure / no answer)
18% did not support**

Selected suggestions:

- Elections that ensure broad and balanced representation
- Regional and affected population representation
- Regional and thematic sub-groups or hubs
- Use the CSTF or similar model
- Needs blessing from VNGOC and NYNGOC memberships



Better Engagement from Regions

Suggestions Include:

- Fundraising for translation, regional meetings and more representative participation in meetings
- Better regional representation (e.g. on Board, through CSTF-type structure, or through regional sub committees and hubs)
- Better use of communication technologies and remote participation
- Diversifying the membership (e.g. through concerted outreach)
- Improving dissemination of information, especially in non-English

Next Steps:

- Call issued in November for ad-hoc working groups on regional engagement (Africa and Asia-Pacific)
- African Civil Society Common Position initiative (regional call for sign-on)
- VNGOC Informal Members Meeting, 13th December 2019
- Findings and options to be presented at VNGOC AGM, 4th March 2020
- New “Civil Society Thematic Dialogue” planned for 6th March 2020
(TBC topic = prevention?)